

Udmurt language

Udmurt (удмурт кыл, *udmurt kyl*) is a Uralic language, part of the Permic subgroup, spoken by the Udmurt natives of the Russian constituent republic of Udmurtia, where it is co-official with Russian. It is written using the Cyrillic alphabet with the addition of five characters not used in the Russian orthography: Ӗ/ӥ, Ӛ/ӛ, Ӝ/ӝ, Ӟ/ӟ, and Ӡ/ӡ. Together with Komi and Komi-Permyak languages, it constitutes the Permic grouping of the Uralic family. Among outsiders, it has traditionally been referred to by its Russian exonym, **Votyak**. Udmurt has borrowed vocabulary from neighboring languages Tatar and Russian.

Ethnologue estimates 550,000 native speakers (77%) in an ethnic population of 750,000 in the former USSR (1989 census).^[3]

Contents
Dialects
Orthography
Phonology
Grammar
Cases
Plural
Nominal plural
Predicative plural
Pronouns
Personal pronouns
Interrogative pronouns
Verbs
Syntax
Lexicon
Media in Udmurt
Bibliography
References
External links

Udmurt	
удмурт кыл <i>udmurt kyl</i>	
Native to	Russia
Region	Udmurtia
Ethnicity	Udmurts
Native speakers	340,000 (2010 census) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Uralic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Udmurt</div>
Official status	
Official language in	 Russia <div> <div><div></div></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Udmurtia </div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-2	udm (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/lang_codes_name.php?code_ID=469)
ISO 639-3	udm
Glottolog	udmu1245 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/udmu1245) ^[2]

Dialects

Udmurt varieties can be grouped in three broad dialect groups:

- Northern Udmurt, spoken along Cheptsa River

- Southern Udmurt
- Besermyan, spoken by the strongly Turkified Besermyans

A continuum of intermediate dialects between Northern and Southern Udmurt is found, and literary Udmurt includes features from both areas. Besermyan is more sharply distinguished.

The differences between the dialects are regardless not major, and mainly involve differences in vocabulary, largely attributable to the stronger influence of Tatar in the southern end of the Udmurt-speaking area. A few differences in morphology and phonology still exist as well, e.g.



- Southern Udmurt has an accusative ending *-ЫЗ* /-ɨz/, contrasting with northern *-мЫ* /-tɨ/.
- Southwestern Udmurt distinguishes an eighth vowel phoneme /ʉ/.
- Besermyan has /e/ in place of standard Udmurt /ə/ (thus distinguishing only six vowel phonemes), and /ə/ in place of standard Udmurt /ɨ/.

Orthography

Udmurt is written using a modified version of the Russian Cyrillic alphabet:

Uppercase	Lowercase	Transliteration ^[4]	IPA	Letter name
А	а	a	[ɑ]	а
Б	б	b	[b]	бэ
В	в	v	[v]	вэ
Г	г	g	[g]	гэ
Д	д	d, d'	[d]; palatal [dʲ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	дэ
Е	е	e, je	[je]; [ʲe] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	е
Ё	ё	jo	[jo]; [ʲo] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	ё
Ж	ж	ž	[ʒ]	жэ
Ѕ	ѕ	dž	[d͡ʒ]	ѕэ
З	з	z, ź	[z]; palatal [ʑ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	зэ
Џ	џ	dž	[d͡ʒ]	ѕе
И	и	i	[i]; [ʲi] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	и
Й	й	ī	[i] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	точкаен и, точкаосын и ("dotted i")
Ў	ў	j	[j]	вакчи и ("short i")
К	к	k	[k]	ка
Л	л	l, l'	[ɫ]; palatal [ɭ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	эл
М	м	m	[m]	эм
Н	н	n, ñ	[n]; palatal [ɲ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	эн
О	о	o	[o]	о
Ө	ö	ö	[ʌ ~ ə]	ө
П	п	p	[p]	пэ
Р	р	r	[r]	эр
С	с	s, ś	[s]; palatal [ɕ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	эс
Т	т	t, t'	[t]; palatal [tʲ] when followed by я, е, и, ё, ю or ь	тэ
У	у	u	[u]	у
Ф ¹	ф	f	[f]	эф
Х ¹	х	h	[x]	ха
Ц ¹	ц	c	[t͡s]	цэ
Ч	ч	ć	[t͡ɕ]	чэ

Ў	ў	č	[tʃ]	Ўэ
Ш	ш	š	[ʃ]	ша
Щ ¹	щ	šč	[ɕ(:)]	ща
Ъ ²	ъ	–	–	чурит пус ("hard sign")
Ы	ы	y	[ɨ ~ ʉ]	ы
Ь	ь	–	[j]	небыт пус ("soft sign")
Э	э	e, è	[e]	э
Ю	ю	ju	[ju]; [jʉ] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	ю
Я	я	ja	[ja]; [jɑ] when preceded by д, т, з, с, л, or н	я

- ¹ Only used in Russian loanwords and names.
- ² Silent, but required to distinguish palatalized consonants (/dʲ tʲ zʲ sʲ lʲ n/) from unpalatalized consonants followed by /j/ if followed by a vowel; for example, /zʲ o/ and /zjo/ are written -зѐ- and -зѣ-, respectively.

Phonology

The language does not distinguish between long and short vowels and does not have vowel harmony.

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>		<u>Post-alveolar</u>	<u>Alveolo-palatal</u>	<u>Palatal</u>		<u>Velar</u>
			<u>plain</u>	<u>lat.</u>			<u>plain</u>	<u>lat.</u>	
<u>Plosive</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	p	t						k
	<u>voiced</u>	b	d						g
<u>Affricate</u>	<u>voiceless</u>		(tʃs)		tʃ	tɕ			
	<u>voiced</u>		(dʒ)		dʒ	dʑ			
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	(f)	s		ʃ	ɕ			(x)
	<u>voiced</u>	v	z		ʒ	ʑ			
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n				ɲ		ŋ
<u>Approximant</u>				l			j	ʎ	
<u>Trill</u>			r						

The consonants /f x tʃs/ are restricted to loanwords, and are traditionally replaced by /p k tɕ/ respectively.

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>
	<u>Unrounded</u>		<u>Round</u>
<u>Close</u>	i	ɨ	u
<u>Mid</u>	e	ə	o
<u>Open</u>	a		

Grammar

Udmurt is an agglutinating language. It uses affixes to express possession, to specify mode, time, and so on.

No gender distinction is made in nouns or in personal pronouns

Cases

Udmurt has fifteen cases: eight grammatical cases and seven locative cases.

There is no congruency between adjectives and nouns in neutral Udmurt noun phrases, i.e. there is no adjective declension as in the inessive noun phrase *бадӟым гуртым*, 'in a large/big village' (cf. Finnish inessive phrase *isossa kylässä* 'in a large/big village', in which *iso* 'big/large' is inflected according to the head noun).



Udmurt language textbook, 1898 (in Russian) Букварь для вотскихъ дѣтей (<http://static.my-shop.ru/product/pdf/115/1149493.pdf>)

Udmurt cases			
Case	Suffix	Example	Translation
Grammatical			
<u>nominative</u>	–	гурт /gurt/	village
<u>genitive</u>	-лэн /ɫɛn/	гуртлэн /gurtɫɛn/	of a village / village's
<u>accusative</u>	-эз/-ез/-ты/-ыз /ɛz/jɛz/tɨ/ɨz/	гуртэз /gurtɛz/	village (as an object)
<u>ablative</u>	-лэсь /ɫɛɕ/	гуртлэсь /gurtɫɛɕ/	from a village
<u>dative</u>	-лы /ɫɨ/	гуртлы /gurtɫɨ/	to a village
<u>instrumental</u>	-эн/-ен/-ын /ɛn/jɛn/ɨn/	гуртэн /gurtɛn/	by means of a village
<u>abessive</u>	-тэк /tek/	гурттэк /gurt : ek/	without a village
<u>adverbial</u>	-я /ja/	гуртъя /gurtja/	in a village way
Locative cases*			
<u>inessive</u>	-ын /ɨn/	гуртын /gurtɨn/	in a village
<u>illative</u>	-э/-е/-ы /ɛ/jɛ/ɨ/	гуртэ /gurtɛ/	into a village (or house)
<u>elative</u>	-ысь /ɨɕ/	гуртысь /gurtɨɕ/	from a village
<u>egressive</u>	-ысен /ɨɕɛn/	гуртысен /gurtɨɕɛn/	starting from a village
<u>terminative</u>	-озь /oʒ/	гуртозь /gurtoʒ/	end up at a village
<u>prolative</u>	-эть/-етй/-ытй/-тй /eti/jeti/ɨti/ti/	гуртэть /gurteti/	along a village
<u>allative</u>	-лань /ɫɑɲ/	гуртлань /gurtɫɑɲ/	towards a village

*Of all the locative cases, personal pronouns can only inflect in the allative (also called approximative).

Plural

There are two types of nominal plurals in Udmurt. One is the plural for nouns -*oc/-ĕc* and the other is the plural for adjectives -*эсь/-есь*.

Nominal plural

The noun is always in plural. In attributive plural phrases, the adjective is not required to be in the plural:

Attributive plural	
Udmurt	English
чебер(есь) <i>ныльӥс</i>	(the) beautiful <i>girls</i>

The plural marker always comes before other endings (i.e. cases and possessive suffixes) in the morphological structure of plural nominal.

Morphological order	
Udmurt	English
ныльӥс ^{лы}	to the girls
гуртьӥс ^{азы}	to/in their villages

Predicative plural

As in Hungarian, if the subject is plural, the adjective is always plural when it functions as the sentence's predicative:

Attributive plural	
Udmurt	English
ныльӥс <i>чебересъ</i>	the girls are <i>beautiful</i>
толӥс <i>кузесъ</i>	the winters are <i>cold</i>

Udmurt pronouns are inflected much in the same way that their referent nouns are. However, personal pronouns are only inflected in the grammatical cases and cannot be inflected in the locative cases.

Pronouns

Personal pronouns

Somewhat like in English, Udmurt personal pronouns are used to refer to human beings only. However, the third person singular can be referred to *it*. The nominative case of personal pronouns are listed in the following table:

Personal pronouns	
Udmurt	English
Singular	
мон /mon/	I
тон /ton/	you
со /so/	she or he or it
Plural	
ми /mi/	we
тӥ /ti/	you
соос /so : s/	they

Interrogative pronouns

Udmurt interrogative pronouns inflect in all cases. However, the inanimate interrogative pronouns 'what' in the locative cases have the base form *кым*-. The nominative case of interrogative pronouns are listed in the following table:

Interrogative pronouns (nominative case)	
Udmurt	English
Singular	
ма /ma/	what
кин /kin/	who
Plural	
маос /maos/	what
кинъёс /kinjos/	who

Verbs

Udmurt verbs are divided into two conjugation groups, both having the infinitive marker *-ны*.

There are three verbal moods in Udmurt: indicative, conditional and imperative. There is also an optative mood used in certain dialects. The indicative mood has four tenses: present, future, and two past tenses. In addition there are four past tense structures which include auxiliary verbs. Verbs are negated by use of an auxiliary negative verb that conjugates with personal endings.

The basic verbal personal markers in Udmurt are (with some exceptions):

Personal endings of verbs	
Person	Ending
Singular	
1st	-Ø
2nd	-Д
3rd	-З
Plural	
1st	-Мы
2nd	-Ды
3rd	-Зы

Example conjugation: тодыны (conjugation I)		
Person	Udmurt	English
Singular		
1st	тодйсько*	I know
2nd	тодйськод*	you know
3rd	тодэ	he/she knows
Plural		
1st	тодйськомы	we know
2nd	тодйськоды	you know
3rd	тодо	they know

*The present tense in Udmurt in all but the third person, is marked with *-(й)сько-/-(у)сько-*.

Syntax

Udmurt is an SOV language.

Lexicon

Depending on the style, about 10 to 30 percent of the Udmurt lexicon consists of loanwords. Many loanwords are from the Tatar language, which has also strongly influenced Udmurt phonology and syntax.

The Udmurt language itself, together with the Tatar language, influenced the language of the Udmurt Jews, in the dialects of which the words of Finno-Ugric and Turkic origin there were recorded.^{[5][6][7][8]}

Media in Udmurt

Eurovision runners-up Buranovskiye Babushki, a pop group composed of Udmurt grandmothers, sing mostly in Udmurt.^[9]

The romantic comedy film Berry-Strawberry, a joint Polish-Udmurt production, is in the Udmurt language.

In 2013, the film company "Inwis kinopottonni" produced a film in the Udmurt language called Puzkar ("nest").^[10]

The Bible was first completely translated into Udmurt in 2013.^[11]



A bilingual sign proclaiming "welcome" in Russian "добро пожаловать" /deb' ro pe' ʒaləvətʲ/ (upper) and Udmurt "гажаса өтиськом" /gəʒasa ətʲiɕkom/ (lower). This picture was taken in Izhevsk, the capital of Udmurtia.

Bibliography

- Kel'makov, Valentin; Sara Hännikäinen (2008). *Udmurtin kielioppia ja harjoituksia* (in Finnish) (2nd ed.). Helsinki: Suomalais-Ugrilainen Seura. ISBN 978-952-5150-34-6.
- Moreau, Jean-Luc (2009). *Parlons Oudmourte*. Paris: L'Harmattan. ISBN 2-296-07951-2.

References

1. Udmurt (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/udm/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Udmurt" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/udmu1245>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Ethnologue code=UDM (http://www.ethnologue.com/14/show_language.asp?code=UDM) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20081009184327/http://www.ethnologue.com/14/show_language.asp?code=UDM) October 9, 2008, at the *Wayback Machine*
4. "BGN/PCGN romanization of udmurt" (http://earth-info.nga.mil/gns/html/Romanization/Udmurt_Romanization_System_Aug11.rtf). Retrieved 24 March 2012.
5. Altyntsev A.V., "The Concept of Love in Ashkenazim of Udmurtia and Tatarstan", *Nauka Udmurtii*. 2013. № 4 (66), pp. 131–132. (Алтынцев А.В., "Чувство любви в понимании евреев-ашкенази Удмуртии и Татарстана". (<http://snioo.ru/images/stories/nu-print/nu4662013.pdf>) Наука Удмуртии. 2013. №4. С. 131–132: Комментарии.) (in Russian)
6. Goldberg-Altyntsev A.V., "A short ethnographic overview of the Ashkenazic Jews' group in Alnashsky District of Udmurt Republic". (<http://files.literjewsudmurtia.webnode.ru/200000026-c8f9fc9fbc/A.%20Goldberg-Altyntsev%20-%20A%20short%20ethnographic%20overview%20of%20the%20Ashkenazic%20Jews%20group%20in%20Alnashsky%20District%20of%20Udmurt%20Republic.pdf>) Die Sammlung der wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten der jungen jüdischen Wissenschaftler. Herausgegeben von Artur Katz, Yumi Matsuda und Alexander Grinberg. München, Dachau, 2015. S. 51.
7. Гольдберг-Алтынцев А.В., "Краткий этнографический обзор группы ашкеназских евреев в Алнашском районе Удмуртской Республики / пер. с англ. яз. А.И. Каца." (<http://files.literjewsudmurtia.webnode.ru/200000031-6b7256d64f/%D0%9A%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BA%D0%B8%D0%B9%20%D1%8D%D1%82%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B3%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%84%D0%B8%D1%87%D0%B5%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8%D0%B9%20%D0%BE%D0%B1%D0%B7%D0%BE%D1%80%20%D0%B3%D1%80%D1%83%D0%BF%D0%BF%D1%8B%20%D0%B0%D1%88%D0%BA%D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B0%D0%B7%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8%D1%85%20%D0%B5%D0%B2%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%B5%D0%B2%20%D0%B2%20%D0%90%D0%BB%D0%BD%D0%B0%D1%88%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BC%20%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B9%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B5%20%D0%A3%D0%B4%D0%BC%D1%83%D1%80%D1%82%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%B9%20%D0%A0%D0%B5%D1%81%D0%BF%D1%83%D0%B1%D0%BB%D0%B8%D0%BA%D0%B8.pdf>) Jewish studies in the Udmurt Republic: Online. Part 1. Edited by A. Greenberg. February 27, 2015 published. P. 3. (in Russian)
8. Goldberg-Altyntsev A.V., "Some characteristics of the Jews in Alnashsky District of Udmurt Republic." The youth. The creativity. The science. Edited by V. Cox, A. Katz and A. Greenberg. Trenton, 2014, p. 28. גאלידבערג-אלטינצעוו א.ו., "איניגע באזונדערהייטן פון די יידן אין אלנאשסקער." (<http://literjewsudmurtia.webnode.ru/biblioteka/publikatsii/some-characteristics-of-the-jews-in-alnashsky-district-of-udmurt-republic/>) The youth. The creativity. The science. = Die Jugend. Die Kreativität. Die Wissenschaft. = יצירתיות. מדע Edited by V. Cox, A. Katz and A. Greenberg. Trenton, 2014. P. 28.) (in Yiddish)
9. Omelyanchuk, Olena (7 March 2012). "Buranovskiye Babushki to represent Russia in Baku" (http://www.eurovision.tv/page/news?id=48483&t=buranovskiye_babushki_to_represent_russia_in_baku). European Broadcasting Union. Retrieved 12 April 2015.
10. "Пюзкар (удмурт кино)". (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGEbvAUUnQ6Y>)

11. "First Bible in Udmurt – arrives this week!" (<http://www.unitedbiblesocieties.org/news/first-bible-in-udmurt-arrives-this-week/>). United Bible Societies. Retrieved 12 April 2015.

External links

- [Udmurtology: Udmurt Language, History and Culture \(http://udmurt.info/\)](http://udmurt.info/)(in Russian)
 - [Literature \(https://web.archive.org/web/20070224030915/http://library.finugor.ru/eng/?item=u&l=2\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20070224030915/http://library.finugor.ru/eng/?item=u&l=2)
 - [The First Udmurt Forum \(http://udmurtology.ru/\)](http://udmurtology.ru/)(in Russian)
 - [Udmurt State University \(has Udmurt Language Program for English speakers\) \(http://v4.udsu.ru/english/\)](http://v4.udsu.ru/english/)
 - [Udmurt language, alphabet and pronunciation \(http://www.omniglot.com/writing/udmurt.htm\)](http://www.omniglot.com/writing/udmurt.htm)
 - [*Vladimir Napol'skikh*. Review of Eberhard Winkler, Udmurt, München 2001 \(Languages of the World. Materials 212\) \(http://udmurt.info/pdf/library/napolskikh/winkler.pdf\)](http://udmurt.info/pdf/library/napolskikh/winkler.pdf)
 - [Udmurt – Finnish/Komi Zyrian dictionary \(http://kyv.oahpa.no/\)](http://kyv.oahpa.no/) (robust finite-state, open-source)
 - [Learning Udmurt words \(http://baltoslav.eu/hulnia/udm.php?mova=en\)](http://baltoslav.eu/hulnia/udm.php?mova=en)
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Udmurt_language&oldid=966791169"

This page was last edited on 9 July 2020, at 06:47 (UTC).

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.